

# CONTROLLER STEVE WESTLY

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## **Westly Calls for Pollution Control Authority Reforms**

SACRAMENTO – State Controller Steve Westly today called for reforming the California Pollution Control Financing Authority to make it more accountable for reducing pollution and protecting the environment.

“The law calls for us to be bankers, not scientists, but protecting the environment has to be part of the agreement,” Westly said. “We need new safeguards to achieve better results.”

Westly, who serves on the Authority’s board of directors, requested in October that the agency review the tax-exempt bond financings it approves to underwrite private pollution control projects.

Westly said he supports new rules requiring applicants to provide third-party certification of pollution reductions and that permits be in place prior to final approval of all projects. He also called on the Authority to ensure that projects it finances have a clear environmental benefit.

In addition, Westly recommended that his auditors examine previously approved dairy applications to assure compliance with current regulations. Westly withheld his support for Authority dairy projects last August when environmentalists raised concerns.

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